

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as indicated.

1. (Currently Amended) A self-retaining implant for attaching a bone cover or a bone fragment to a skull, the implant comprising:

a support element having an upper side and a lower side, the lower side for facing a surface of the bone cover or the bone fragment; and

an extension extending from the lower side of the support element and supporting therefrom at least one spike, wherein the spike extends substantially parallel to the support element toward the bone cover or bone fragment and ~~has a substantially triangular form such that the spike~~ can be driven laterally into the bone cover or bone fragment,

wherein the support element comprises two support arms extending in opposite directions from the extension, the first of the two support arms cooperating with the skull and the second of the two support arms cooperating with the bone cover or bone fragment.

2. (Previously Presented) The implant according to Claim 1, wherein the extension extends substantially at right angles to the support element.

Claim 3 (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The implant according to Claim 1, wherein the support element has a strip-like form.

5. (Previously Presented) The implant according to Claim 1, wherein the lower side of the support element is concave or spherically curved at least in sections.

6. (Previously Presented) The implant according to Claim 1, wherein the spike extends from an end of the extension remote from the support element.

Claim 7 (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) The implant according to Claim 1, wherein the spike comprises sharpened edges.

**Applicant: Christian Knöpfle et al.**  
**Serial No.: 09/921,233**  
**Group Art Unit: 3732**  
**Page 3**

9. (Previously Presented) The implant according to Claim 1, wherein, at its end cooperating with the skull bone, the support element defines a screw hole therethrough.

10. (Previously Presented) The implant according to Claim 9, wherein the support element has a thickness increasing in the direction of the screw hole.

11. (Previously Presented) The implant according to Claim 9, wherein an inside of the screw hole is spherically curved.

12. (Previously Presented) A self-retaining implant for attaching a bone cover or a bone fragment to a skull, the implant comprising:

a support element with an upper side and a lower side for contacting the bone cover or the bone fragment, and

an extension extending from the lower side of the support element in such a manner that the support element and the extension form a T-shaped structure in cross section, the extension supporting at least one spike which extends substantially parallel to the support element toward the bone cover or bone fragment and ~~has a substantially triangular form such that the spike~~ can be driven laterally into the bone cover or bone fragment.

Claims 13-27 (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) The implant according to Claim 12, wherein the spike comprises sharpened edges.

Please add the following claims.

29. (New) The implant according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one spike extends from the extension in a same direction as the second support arm and cooperates with the second support arm and the bone cover or bone fragment to anchor the implant.

30. (New) The implant according to Claim 1, wherein the spike has a substantially triangular form.

31. (New) The implant according to Claim 30, wherein the second support arm extends in a same direction as the substantially triangular spike and cooperates with the substantially triangular spike and the bone cover or bone fragment to anchor the implant.

32. (New) The implant according to Claim 12, wherein the support element comprises two support arms extending in opposite directions from the extension to, along with the extension, form the T-shaped structure in cross section, wherein the first of the two support arms cooperates with the skull and the second of the two support arms cooperates with the bone cover or bone fragment.

33. (New) The implant according to Claim 32, wherein the at least one spike extends from the extension in a same direction as the second support arm and cooperates with the second support arm and the bone cover or bone fragment to anchor the implant.

34. (New) The implant according to Claim 33, wherein the spike has a substantially triangular form.

35. (New) The implant according to Claim 34, wherein the second support arm extends in a same direction as the substantially triangular spike and cooperates with the substantially triangular spike and the bone cover or bone fragment to anchor the implant.

36. (New) The implant according to Claim 12, wherein the spike has a substantially triangular form.

37. (New) The implant accordingly to Claim 36, wherein the support element cooperates with the substantially triangular spike and the bone cover or bone fragment to anchor the implant.

---